shôjo

RED RIVER

6

story and art by Chie Shinohara

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VOL. 6

STORY AND ART BY CHIE SHINOHARA

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PARENTAL ADVISORY
RED RIVER is rated T+ for Older Teen. ... contains violence, mature themes, ... and suggestive material. ... ages 16 and up.

PRINCESS YUKI.
IT IS CUSTOMARY FOR A PRINCE TO HAVE MANY CONCUBINES AND SERVANTS.
ALL THAT FOR ONE MAN?!
MATTIWAZA MUST BE A REAL PERVERT!
HIS HIGHNESS HAS NO WIFE
WELL, HIS WIFE MUST BE VERY UNDERSTANDING.
WHAT?
HIS HIGHNESS HAS NEVER TAKEN A LEGAL WIFE.
AND HE SAYS HE HAS NO INTENTION OF DOING SO.

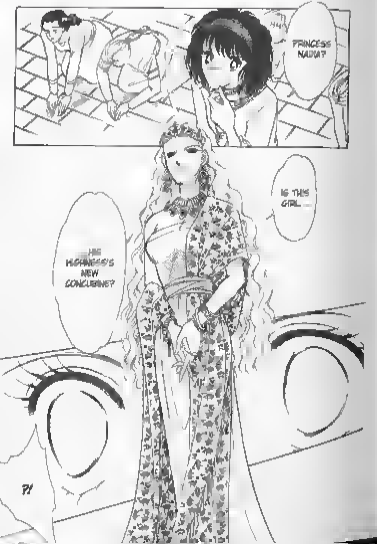
THE CONCUBINES AND...
...AND FEMALE SERVANTS AND SLAVES LIVE HERE
BEYOND THIS GATE IS THE SERAGLIO OF THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS.

PLEASE EXCUSE ME.
I ONLY KNOW THAT EIGHT WOMEN HAVE ENTERED THAT ROOM, EITHER OUT OF CURIOSITY OR BY MISTAKE, AND THE PRINCE EXECUTES EVERY ONE OF THEM.
YOU'RE NOT THINKING OF TAKING A PEEK INSIDE THE BLUE BEER ROOM.
PRINCESS YUMI?
SIGH
NO, THANK YOU! I WANT TO KEEP MY HEAD!
SO HAVE A CARE MILADY

YOU MAY USE THEM AT ANY TIME YOU LIKE.
THIS IS THE FIFTH CONCUBINE'S ROOM, HOLY ISHTAR.
THE HALLS AND COURT YARDS OF THE PALACE ARE COMMON AREAS.
SKWEEK
WHY NOT?
I COULDN'T SAY MILADY
...YOU MUST NEVER ENTER THE BLUE BEER ROOM, THE SOUTHERN-MOST CHAMBER...
WHAT'S IN THAT ROOM?
I KNOW NOT
YES, MILADY.
THAT ROOM HAS BEEN FORBIDDEN SINCE PRINCE MATTIWAZA SEALED IT.
BLUE BEER ROOM?

PRINCE KAIL WENT TO SOME TROUBLE TO LET ME KNOW HE LOVES ME.
I WANT TO DO SOMETHING TO HELP HIM.
SO THE BEST THING I CAN DO IS TO ESCAPE ON MY OWN.
BUT I'M TRAPPED HERE.
OKAY, RYU AND SHULA.
LET'S EXPLORE THE SERAGLIO.
EXPLORE, PRINCESS YURI?!

I DON'T CARE WHAT MATTIWAZA HAS HIDDEN IN THAT ROOM.
I JUST WANT TO FIND A WAY OUT OF THIS PLACE.
PRINCESS YURI!
I THINK HE WILL
PRINCE KAIL WILL COME FOR YOU.
YOU NEED ONLY SIT QUIETLY!
A PRINCESS SHOULD WAIT FOR HER PRINCE TO RESCUE HER!
I WANT TO SEE HIM, BUT
I DON'T WANT TO BE A DISTRACTION OR A BURDEN.
BUT I DON'T WANT TO WAIT


PRINCESS NAUSI?
IS THIS GIRL...
HER MISHANDLES'S NEW CONCUBINE?

SHE REALLY IS A CHILD.
LOOK, IT'S HER.

THE WOMEN WHO'VE
WHAT NASTY WOMEN.
HAHA. THEY'RE NOT EVEN WHISPERING
ISHTAR MAY BE THE GODDESS OF BEAUTY AND WAR...
BUT THIS ISHTAR SHOULD STICK TO WAR.
HAHAHA
SHE HAS A FLAT CHEST AND A BOY'S HIPS!

IF THIS GATE WE CAME THROUGH IS THE ONLY EXIT
FORGIVE THEM. I JUST WANT TO KNOW....

YOU CARELESS FOOL!
LOOK WHAT YOU'VE DONE TO PRINCESS NAUSI!
OUCH!
HAHAM

DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME— IT'S FUTILE.
HMPH. YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE PLANNING YOUR ESCAPE.
PRINCE OF DARKNESS!
WH-WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
HE—OH!
THIS IS MY SERAGLIO. WHAT DO YOU THINK I WANT?
WHAT DO YOU WANT HERE AT THIS HOUR?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
HE MUST BE VERY HEALTHY.
THEY HIRE WITH A DIFFERENT ONE EVERY NIGHT OF THE MONTH!
IF HE KEEPS WITH HIS CONCUBINE EVERY NIGHT!
HE COULD SHOW UP HERE AT ANY TIME. I'LL HAVE TO BE CAREFUL. WHEN I MAKE MY BREAK FOR IT

IT'S ALL RIGHT. I HOPE YOU'LL SOON FEEL AT HOME HERE.
PRINCESS NADIA IS HIS HIGHNESS'S FIRST CONCUBINE, SUPERIOR TO ALL!
WOW!
HMPH. SHE MAY BE FROM A ROYAL FAMILY, BUT SHE'S NOT HIS WIFE!
A FAR CRY FROM A MONKEY FROM NEWHERE.
SHE IS OF THE ROYAL FAMILY OF BABYLONIA.
YES. PRINCESS NADIA IS THE MOTHER OF HIS HIGHNESS'S FIRST PRINCESS AND SECOND PRINCE
SUPERIOR TO AL...
SHE'S A CONCUBINE, JUST LIKE PRINCESS YUNI
HEE HEE
HEE HEE
WHAT ARE YOU...
—PLOTTING NOW?
PRINCESS NADIA?
SHE LOOKS LIKE SHE...

ANOTHER MESSAGE FROM PRINCE KAIL!
PRINCESS YUKI! LOOK AT THIS!
BUT HAVE A CARE.
MAKE SURE OUR NAMES ARE NOT MENTIONED.
YES
SEE THAT THE GIRL GETS TO HIS.

IT WOULD BE BETTER IF THE PRINCE HIMSELF WERE TO SLAY THE GIRL
IT WOULD NOT BE WISE TO CAUSE TROUBLE IN THE SENGOKU. NOTHING ESCAPES PRINCE MITSUHARA'S NOTICE.
PERHAPS THE GIRL WILL ARRIVE TO VISIT THAT ROOM?
AND IF HIS HIGHNESS SHOULD FIND HER THERE.
IS THAT LIKELY WITH?
HIS HIGHNESS ALLOWS NO ONE TO ENTER THE BLUE PEER ROOM.
OH, YES. HE KILLS WHOMEVER ENTERS WITHOUT ALLOWING THEM TO EXPLAIN THEMSELVES.

THE GUARDS WILL HEAR US.
PRINCESS YUE, PLEASE BE QUIET
RYU, SHAA
HURRY!
HE'S COMING FOR ME!!
YES.
WE SAID HE WOULD IN THE MESSAGE!
WILL...
...PRINCE KAIL REALLY COME?

"I'M COMING TO RESCUE YOU TO-NIGHT."
"MEET ME IN THE SOUTHERN-MOST ROOM OF THE SERAGLIO. KAIL MURAILL."
BUT THAT'S THE BLUE PEER ROOM.
JUST A MOMENT WE'LL READ IT TO YOU.
THE SERVANT SAID A MERCHANT GAVE IT TO HER TO PASS TO YOU.
FROM PRINCE KAIL? REALLY?
WHAT DOES IT SAY?
PRINCE KAIL IS COMING TO RESCUE US!

SHH
HMPF
A SERVANT JUST TOLD ME SHE SAW SOMEONE ENTER THE BLUE PEER ROOM!
YOUR HIGHNESS, PLEASE WAKE UP
YOUR HIGHNESS
EH?
WHAT?!

PRINCE KAIL?
PRINCESS YURI
THERE'S NO ONE HERE.
IT LOOKS LIKE THIS ROOM HASN'T BEEN USED FOR A LONG TIME.
IT'S A WOMAN'S BEDROOM.
YES, A WOMAN OF HIGH STATUS.

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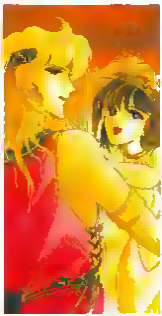
RED RIVER

Yuri, a modern-day teen, is trapped in the palace of an ancient Prince of Darkness! She waits there for Prince Kail, her savior and the only one who can send her back to modern day Japan. While Yuri attends to the prisoners taken by the Dark Prince's armies, hoping they can rise up and fight again, Prince Kail and his brother, Zannanta, journey into enemy territory. If they misstep, the consequences will be great—for both the future of the Hittite empire and Yuri and Kail's relationship!



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This book reads from right to left.

TEEN T+ AGE 13+ PARENTAL RATING

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PRINCE OF PUNC-NESS!
WELL
WEREN'T YOU
NEVER TO ENTER THIS ROOM?
SEE!

A WOMAN OF HIGH STATUS?
IS OF MATTIWAZA'S CONCUBINES?
SHE? IT FITS YOU PERFECTLY PRINCESS YUKI.
SHE WAS PROBABLY ABOUT YOUR AGE.
NO. DON'T PUT IT ON ME.
A YOUNG WOMAN.
NO. THE DRESS IS A BIT OUT OF FASHION, BUT IT'S THE DRESS OF A MAIDEN.

PRINCE OF BARONESS...
MY PRINCE, WHY DO YOU HESITATE?
SHE VIOLATED YOUR LAW!
STRANGE HER DOWN!
SHE LOOKS LIKE QUEEN NAKIA!!
QUEEN NAKIA?
I, I KNEW SHE REMINDED ME OF SUMIRONE!
IT'S QUEEN NAKIA!!

TATUKIA!

BUT YOU THINK ONLY OF PRINCESS TATUMIA.
MY SISTER NAKIA LEFT TO BECOME THE UFFICIAL WIFE OF THE HITTITE EMPEROR.
AND I CAME TO THIS LAND TO BE YOUR OFFICIAL WIFE.
I TALK THE WAY YOU LIKE AND DRESS THE WAY YOU LIKE.
I'VE DONE EVERY THING TO PLEASE YOU ALL THESE YEARS.
SILENCE, NAKIA!
TATUMIA?
OH!

GASP
IT'S YOUR FAULT, MY PRINCE!
YOU TOOK HER AS YOUR CONCUBINE!
MESSAGE? IS THAT TRUE, NAKIA?
UH
QUEEN NAKIA IS FROM BABYLONIA, TOO!
PRINCESS NADIA IS FROM BABYLONIA!
ARE THEY SISTERS?
IT MUST HAVE BEEN
PRINCESS NADIA WHO LURED YUKI HERE WITH THE MESSAGE!

I WANT TO HELP HIM.
BUT SHE FELT SHE HAD TO DO SOMETHING! I KNOW HOW THAT FEELS!
THAT'S HOW I FEEL... I MUST HELP PRINCE KAIL.
SHE WANTED TO PLEASE YOU, AND SHE DIDN'T KNOW HOW.
WHY DO YOU WANT TO KILL HER?!
SHE DID THIS BECAUSE SHE LOVES YOU.
BUT SHE TRIED TO KILL YOU!
I DON'T LIKE HER, BUT
I UNDERSTAND HER DESIRE TO PLEASE THE MAN SHE LOVES.
GET OUT OF MY WAY!
OR I'LL KILL YOU, TOO!

HAS YOUR LOVE FOR HIM CLOUDED YOUR JUDGEMENT?
WHAT A STRANGE COMBINATION!
SHE'S SO CHILDLIKE AND VULNERABLE WHEN IT COMES TO HER PRINCE KAL. YET I'VE SEEN HER CUNNING MIND IN ACTION.
WAP
STOP!
WH-WHAT?

YOU BELIEVED THAT THIS CAME FROM HIM?
IF THIS WERE REALLY WRITTEN BY MARISELL, IT WOULD BEAR HIS SEAL.
BESIDES, OUR SECURITY IS NOT SO LAX THAT A FOREIGN PRINCE CAN TRAIPSE INTO MY TERRITORY.

SO I HAVE TO ESCAPE.
KLANK

I EXPECTED THAT A SISTER OF QUEEN NAKIA WOULD BE STRONG...
BUT I SEEM TO HAVE MISJUDGED HER.

BACK TO YOUR ROOMS!
AND NEVER ENTER THIS CHAMBER AGAIN!
YOUR HIGHNESS!
WAAAH
PRINCESS NAKIA

HOW COULD I MISTAKE THIS URCHIN FOR TATUMA...
WHO WAS RENOWNED AS THE MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN THE WORLD?
I MUST HAVE BEEN BEWITCHED!

OH!
WHO
PRINCE OF DARK MESS?

NO.
LIKE A NORMAL PRINCESS?
SO YOU'RE GOING TO WAIT FOR YOUR PRINCE TO RESCUE YOU.
OH! WE'RE GLAD TO HEAR THAT!
THAT THE HARDEST PART ABOUT TAKING AN ENEMY'S FORTRESS IS GETTING INSIDE.
PRINCE KAL SAID
HERE I CAN BE USEFUL TO PRINCE KAL WHEN HE BEGINS HIS SIEGE OF WARRIGANNA.
IF THAT'S TRUE, I CAN HELP HIM BEST BY STAYING RIGHT HERE.
SHE'S FROM THE SAME PLACE AS ME. I'M SURE OF IT!
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RYUR, SHAILA.
I'M NOT GOING TO ESCAPE

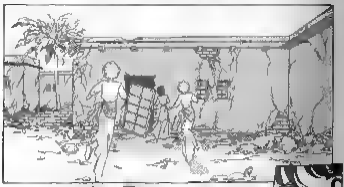
WHAT'S THE BEST THING I CAN DO FOR THE MAN I LOVE?
HOW CAN I BEST HELP HIM?

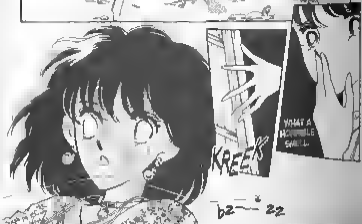
...HELPING PRINCE KAN IS FAR MORE IMPORTANT
ACTUALLY, I AM CURIOUS ABOUT THIS TATJANA WHO BECOMES THE PRINCE — TSUNO-MISSE'S WIFE, BUT...
RIGHT NOW I NEED TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO DO THAT
STOP TAKING YOUR FRUSTRATIONS OUT ON PRINCESS YURI!
HAHN. YOU PAINTED MONSTERS!
GOOD IDEA! LET'S ASK THEM ABOUT HER!
HEY MAYBE HIS GIRLFRIENDS KNOW WHO THE TATJKIA IS!
COME ON, GIRLS, LET'S GO.
I WON'T CARE TO KNOW
WHEN PRINCE KAN ASSAULTS WASSI-GANNI.
IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE AGENTS ON THE INSIDE, WOULDN'T IT?
I WANT TO PREPARE THEM FOR THAT TIME.
PRINCESS YURI
WHAT'S WRONG?
HA HA HA HA HA
THOSE WHO LACK BEAUTY NEED A TRICK TO ATTRACT MEN.
HMPH.
I WONDER WHAT SHE DID TO WIN SUCH FAVOR.
SHE'S THE FIRST TO ENTER THE BLUE IFFER ROOM AND BE SPARED
YOU MEAN...
IT'S NICE TO BE HIS HIGHNESS'S FAVORITE, ISN'T YOU GET TO GO OUT WHENEVER YOU WANT

WORKING IN A QUARRY IS A JOB FOR POOR PEOPLE.
STILL, IT'S DECENT WORK FOR PRISONERS OF WAR.
THAT'S THEIR JOB? IT LOOKS LIKE HARD WORK.
THUMP
!
THUMP
THUMP
NO, PLEASE!
WHAT'S WRONG?
I CAN STILL WORK! PLEASE DON'T TAKE ME THERE!
DON'T PUT ME IN THE HOUSE OF REST!

ISHTAR HAS COME TO SEE US!
ISHTAR!
PRINCESS YUMI!
I NEED THEM TO FIGHT WHEN FRANCE FALL GETS HERE.
I'M CLAD THEY'RE ALL RIGHT
AS THE ARTANS LABORERS. THANKS TO YOU.
YES, WE'RE GIVEN THE SAME FOOD AND SHELTER.
PLEASE, DON'T KNEEL.
HOW ARE YOU DOING?
ARE THEY GIVING YOU ENOUGH TO EAT?

IT'S NO PLACE FOR A PRINCESS!
W-WAIT PLEASE!
PRINCESS YUKI! WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
I WANT TO SEE THIS HOUSE OF REST




KREEK
WHAT A HORRIBLE SMELL!

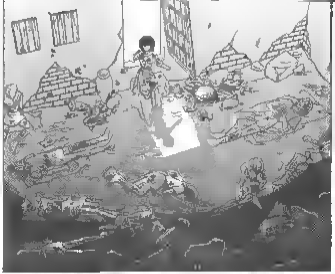
HELP ME!
HE'S A MIYANAI LABORER WHO GOT CRUSHED BY A HOOK.
...ARE PLACED IN THE HOUSE OF REST UNTIL THEY RECOVER.
THOSE WHO BECOME TOO SICK OR INJURED TO WORK.

IS IT LIKE A HOSPITAL OR SOME THING?
WHY IS HE SO UPSET ABOUT GOING THERE?

I DON'T THINK THEY WILL EVER SEE ANATOLIA AGAIN.
PLEASE DON'T!
SOME OF OUR COMRADES FELL SICK AND WERE TAKEN THERE
BECAUSE NO ONE EVER RETURNS FROM THE HOUSE OF REST

UGH.
PRINCESS YUKI, LET'S GO!
PLEASE.
W-WATER.

THE AIR IS STIFLING...
WET DIRTY CLOTHING...
!!
bzzz
WATER?
J-JUST A MOMENT
IT'S FLOWING!



bzzz
bzzz
OH...
THIS IS TERRIBLE!

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. WE'RE HERE BECAUSE THE BOX OF ILLNESS ENTERED OUR BODIES.
AND YOU'RE SAYING YOU HAVE TO BELIEVE YOU'LL GET WELL?
OF COURSE NOT!
KOFF
KOFF
WRETCHES LIKE US CAN ONLY WAIT FOR DEATH.
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
KOFF
GO HOME. THIS IS NO PLACE FOR THE LIVING.
STOP SAYING THAT!!

IT'S COMMON KNOWLEDGE IN MY WORLD THAT CLEANLINESS IS ESSENTIAL WHEN TREATING THE SICK AND INJURED!

IF SICK PEOPLE STAY IN A PLACE LIKE THIS, THEY'LL NEVER RECOVER.

YES, MILADY I'LL FETCH IT
DON'T YOU REALIZE THAT IF YOU ARE WOUNDED IN BATTLE YOU COULD END UP IN SUCH A PLACE?
WOULDN'T YOU WANT CLEAN WATER TO DRINK?
PRINCESS YUNE
WANT YOU MEET TO TALK TO THE PRISONERS.
...ABOUT FIGHTING FOR PRINCE KAIL?
YES, BUT I CAN'T TURN MY BACK ON THESE PEOPLE.
OUR PLAN CAN WAIT. THIS IS MORE IMPORTANT RIGHT NOW!

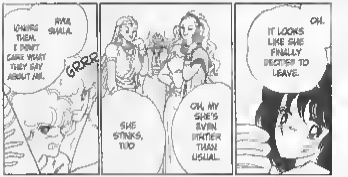
RYLA, GATHER ALL THEIR CLOTHS AND BLANKETS. I'M GOING TO WASH THEM!
SHALA, OPEN THE WINDOWS AND LET IN SOME FRESH AIR.
ALL RIGHT BELIEVE WHAT EVER YOU WANT!
BUT LET ME CLEAN THIS PLACE, OKAY?
FWUP
I'LL GET SOME WATER.
NO, YOU CAN'T LADY WHITAR.
YOU DON'T HAVE PERMISSION TO GO TO THE WELL..
WHAP
WHAT?
THEN YOU GO SPY ME SOME!

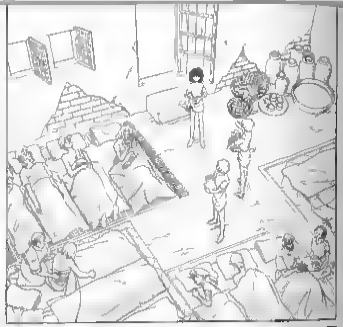
REALLY?
IF KEEPING THE PLACE CLEAN HELPS THE SICK TO GET BETTER, I'LL HELP HER.
HMM.
PRINCESS YUN, WE'RE SHORT ON BANDAGES AND SHEETS FOR THE SICK.
WHAT?
THEN WE'LL BRING SOME FROM THE SERAGLIO.
THEN THEY CAN AT LEAST GET SOME REST
I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT TREATING SICK PEOPLE, BUT
MAYBE I CAN MAKE THIS PLACE SO THAT IT ISN'T A DEATH SENTENCE TO COME HERE.
RYU, HEAT SOME WATER.
SHALA, WE'RE GOING TO BOIL EVERYTHING
PERFECT TWINS. WE'RE SHORT ON STAFF. WILL YOU HELP US?
Y-YES, MY SON IS HERE.
OH, MA'AM. DID YOU BRING SOME FOOD?
THEY SAY THE SICK ARE HAVING FEWER STOMACH PROBLEMS THAN BEFORE.
ISHTAR STARTED A BIG CLEAN UP A FEW DAYS AGO.
THERE'S A COMMOTION AT THE HOUSE OF WEST. WHAT'S GOING ON?

OF COURSE NOT. NO PRINCE WOULD EVER FALL FOR A CREATURE LIKE HER.
HA HA HA
HA HA
THAT RUMOR ABOUT HER BEING THE CONCUBINE OF A HITTITE PRINCE CAN'T BE TRUE.

VERY WELL
HA HA HA
ANYWAY IF PRINCE KAN CAN'T SEE ME, WHAT'S THE POINT?
THERE'S NO TIME
PRINCESS YURI, DRESS UP AND PUT THEM TO SHAME
WHEN PRINCESS YURI DRESSES UP SHE'S MORE BEAUTIFUL THAN ANY OF YOU!
I CAN'T STAND IT WHEN THEY TALK THAT WAY ABOUT PRINCESS YURI. ALL THEY CARE ABOUT IS GETTING THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS'S ATTENTION!
I HATE THOSE WITCHES!

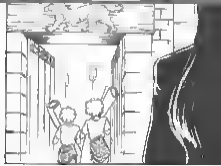
CURTAINS.
SHEETS, AND..
BRING THOSE CARPETS, TOO.


LOOKIE THERE. I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT ME.
RYA, SHALA.
GRRR
SHE STINKS, TOO
OH, MY SHE'S EVEN UGLIER THAN USUAL.
OH.
IT LOOKS LIKE SHE FINALLY DECIDED TO LEAVE.



THANK YOU.
TO BE CLEAN.
IT FEELS GOOD...
IT'S SOFT
IT SMELLS LIKE SUNSHINE.
SPLISH...

HOW DO YOU LIKE IT?
IT'S A LOT BETTER THAN BEFORE, RIGHT?
SWUP
SWUP
SWUP

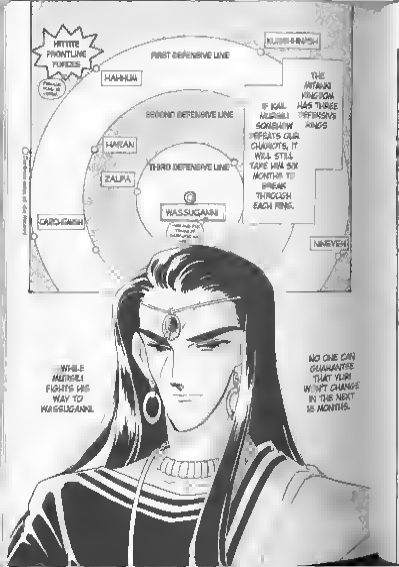


YES, YOUR HIGHNESS. SHE GOES TO THE HOUSE OF REST.
THE GIRL...
...GOES OUT EVERY DAY, EH?

I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE SO BEAUTIFUL.
NOR I.
SHE'S A BEAUTIFUL GIRL.
NO PRINCESS IN THE WORLD IS AS RADIANT AS SHE.
I'M STARTING TO BELIEVE THAT I MAY LIVE.
THIS IS THE BEST I'VE FELT SINCE I GOT HERE!
OKAY
LET'S DO LAUNDRY!
THAT'S PRINCESS YURI.
YES.
A ROYAL CONCUBINE DOESN'T WASH CLOTHES
UH-OH.
SPLASH
LOOK, SHE'S COVERED WITH DIRT AGAIN.
I KNOW
FWAP

WHETHER MITANNI OR HITTITE, ALL ARE DRAWN TO HER.
SHE HAS QUALITIES THAT WIN PEOPLE'S HEARTS.
IT'S NOT THAT SHE'S A ROYAL CONCUBINE OR A GODDESS...

THOUGH SHE BE COVERED WITH DIRT AND DRESSED IN RAGS.
PRINCESS YURI IS THE FAIREST PRINCESS OF THEM ALL.


HITTITE FRONTLINE FORCES
FIRST DEFENSIVE LINE
KUSSARA
HAHHUM
THE MITANNI KINGDOM HAS THREE DEFENSIVE LINES
SECOND DEFENSIVE LINE
IF KAIL HIMSELF SOMEHOW DEFEATS OUR CHARIOTS, IT WILL STILL TAKE HIM SIX MONTHS TO BREAK THROUGH EACH LINE.
HARAN
ZALPA
THIRD DEFENSIVE LINE
WASSUGANNI
CARCHEMISH
NINEVEH
WHILE MURSILI FIGHTS HIS WAY TO WASSUGANNI,
NO ONE CAN GUARANTEE THAT YURI WON'T CHANGE IN THE NEXT 18 MONTHS.

WOMAN CHANGE.
THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT YURI WON'T BECOME LIKE TATUNGA
BUT
I BEGIN TO SEE WHY PRINCE KAIL LOVES HER.
50

PRINCE KAIL IS ON HIS WAY!
WHAT?
HOW DID ALIRGLI DO THIS?
WHAT? THAT CAN'T BE! HOW COULD THEY HAVE FALLEN SO QUICKLY?!
OUR CHARIOT FORCES ARE THE BEST IN THE WORLD!
THEY HAVE ALL BEEN WIPED OUT YOUR HIGHNESS
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
TARRUMP
WHAT?
PRINCE MATTY-WASA!
A MESSAGE HAS COME FROM THE BORDER!
YOUR HIGHNESS!
BOTH MAHUHA AND MAHAM, OUR FIRST AND SECOND LINES OF DEFENSE, HAVE FALLEN!
THE HITTITE FORCES ARE ON THEIR WAY HERE!

YOUR HIGHNESS?
I MUST CONFRONT THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
I PROMISED YURI I'D GET HER BACK TO HATTUSA WITHIN FIVE MONTHS.
WE ONLY HAVE FIVE MONTHS LEFT

WOOOOO
YES, PRINCE KAIL'S PLAN WORKED PERFECTLY!
IT'S AMAZING...
SUCH A QUICK VICTORY!

THAT'S NOT GOOD ENOUGH
PERHAPS WE SHALL DEFEAT THE HITTANI IN LESS THAN A YEAR, EH?

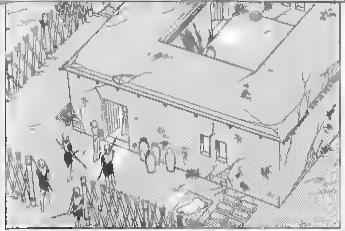
HOW COULD...
THE MITANNI CHARIOT FORCES, THE FIERCEST FIGHTERS IN THE REGION, HAVE BEEN DEFEATED SO QUICKLY?
WHAT TRICK DID KAIL MURSIL I EMPLOY?

I DON'T CARE HOW ALISHIL MANAGED IT...
I WON'T ALLOW HIM TO ADVANCE ANY FARTHER!
I'LL GO OUT AND MEET HIM IN BATTLE!
ALL RIGHT
WHATEVER YOU WERE IN THE PAST, YOU'RE NOW THE MITANNI'S ISHTAR.
WILL YOU GRANT US VICTORY?
WUP
THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS IS TAKING TO THE FIELD!
YOUR HIGHNESS IS GOING INTO BATTLE?
WE'LL SEE TO THE PREPARATIONS.
— DEFEAT MY CHARIOTS?
HOW DID HE...
I DON'T KNOW ANY THING!
SHE MAY KNOW SOME THING...
YOUR HIGHNESS, ISHTAR WAS ALISHIL'S CONCUBINE.
HOW WOULD I KNOW WHY?
THOSE VICTORIES ALL HAPPENED WHILE I WAS IMPRISONED HERE.

HE MUST BE GETTING CLOSE NOW
IT'S BEEN A MONTH SINCE PRINCE KAIL TOOK HARAN.
I DON'T KNOW HOW HE DID IT EXACTLY. BUT I'M SURE HE CAME UP WITH AN INGENIOUS IDEA.
THE WINDY SEASON HAS COME TO ANATOLIA.
IT'S THE TIME TO MAKE IRON.
I BELIEVE PRINCE KAIL'S MEN WERE ARMED WITH IRON IN THOSE BATTLES.

WE'VE GOT TO TELL PRINCE KAIL THAT WASSUGANNI'S DEFENSES ARE GOING TO BE WEAKENED!
RYU, SHALA, THIS IS OUR CHANCE!
THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS IS GOING OUT TO FIGHT PRINCE KAIL.
I JUST HOPE SECURITY IN WASSUGANNI WILL BE LAX IN HIS ABSENCE.
PRINCESS YURI!
THEY'RE WATCHING US. WE CAN'T GET OUT!
HOW CAN WE DO THAT?
YES, I THINK SO.
DO YOU THINK THAT PRINCE KAIL IS WINNING BECAUSE...
BY THE WAY
WE CAN ASK THEM TO BE OUR MESSENGERS!
OH!
THAT'S WHY!
I KEPT IN TOUCH WITH THE HITTITE PRISONERS OF WAR.

IF THIS PLAN SUCCEEDS, I CAN GO BACK TO PRINCE KAI...
BUT I CAN'T HELP IT
?!
EK!
PRINCESS YURI!



HOW IS EVER/CANET I BROUGHT YOU SOME FOOD
OH, PRINCESS YURI.

PRINCESS YURI, IF YOU RUSH, THE GUARDS WILL SUSPECT SOMETHING
YOU'RE RIGHT
I'M TAKING FOOD TO THE PEOPLE IN THE COURT YARD. WHY DON'T YOU COME HERE.
HOLY ISHTAR, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
MOST LIKELY THE NEW MAN YOU ARRIVED YESTERDAY. HE'S YOUNG AND SEEMS TO HAVE SOME STRENGTH LEFT. HE'S IN THE COURT YARD NOW.
WAS
WHO'S THE HEALTHIEST ONE AMONG YOU?
HEALTHIEST?
WELL, SPEAK LOW SO THE GUARDS WON'T HEAR.

YOU'RE THE NEW PRISONER OF WAR?
PRINCE ZANNANZA!
WE'RE SORRY!

THE REASON I STOLE IN HERE IS...
MY BROTHER'S ARMIES ARE HANDLING THE MITANNI SUITE NICELY ON THEIR OWN.
HOW DID YOU GET HERE, PRINCE ZANNANZA?
I THOUGHT YOU WERE WEARING THE SACRED RINGS.

MY BROTHER SENT ME.
TO HELP YOU ESCAPE, OF COURSE.

!!
PRINCE ZANNANZA!!
YOUR BODYGUARDS ARE AS SHARP AS EVER.

I WANT YUNA.
DON'T YOU KNOW WHY MY BROTHER SENT ME TO RESCUE YOU IN THIS RISKY MANNER?
WHAT?
TELL HIM I'LL BE AWAITING HIS INSTRUCTIONS, ALL RIGHT?
THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS IS LEAVING SOON TO ENGAGE PRINCE KAIL'S ARMIES.
IF PRINCE KAIL WANTS TO STRIKE WADDAGUANN WHILE ITS DEFENSES ARE REDUCED
...THE HITTITE PRISONERS AND I WILL OPEN THE GATES FOR HIS SOLDIERS

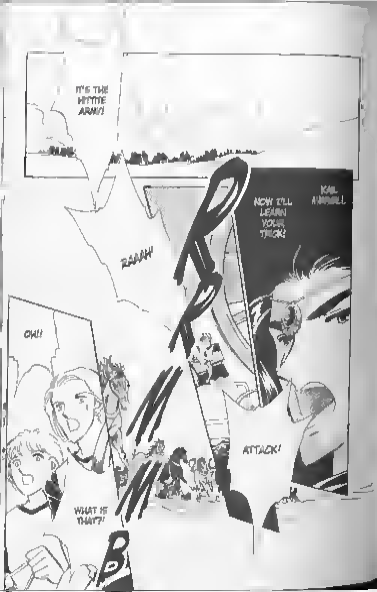
YES. HE MUST BE NEAR ZAIPA BY NOW
HE SENT YOU?
WON'T IT WONDER, FU, PRINCESS YUNA?
NOW WOULD BE THE PERFECT TIME FOR PRINCE KAIL TO ATTACK THIS CITY BECAUSE MATTIWAZA IS GOING OUT TO FIGHT
NO! IF THE THREE OF US DISAPPEAR, NOW THEY'LL TIGHTEN SECURITY IN THE CITY!
?
WHEN WE GO, WE'LL GO TO-GETHER.
NO. I CAN'T DO THAT. IF THEY FIND ME GONE, THEY'LL KILL YOU.
THEN WE WILL STAY BUT YOU MUST GO NOW
THEN PLEASE GET A MESSAGE TO PRINCE KAIL FOR ME.
PRINCE ZANNANZA
YOU MUST HAVE FOUND A WAY OUT! RIGHT?

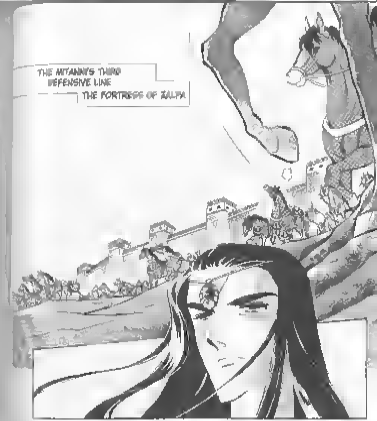
PRINCE KAN HAS ALWAYS PROTECTED ME.
NOW IT'S MY TURN TO HELP HIM.
PLEASE TELL PRINCE KAN...
...NOT WORRY ABOUT ME. HE SHOULD FOCUS ON WINNING THE WAR.
YURI!
PRINCESS YURI!
PRINCESS YURI!
MY COUNTRY... MY FAMILY...
JAPAN!
I WON'T BE ABLE TO GO BACK TO JAPAN...
OTHERWISE, YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO RETURN TO YOUR COUNTRY.
IT WILL SHINE FOR ONE MONTH, BUT IT IS A LONG JOURNEY BACK TO HATTUSA. YOU MUST LEAVE HERE WITHIN FOUR MONTHS TIME...
WE HAVE ONLY FOUR MORE MONTHS UNTIL THE WET SEASON ARRIVES AND THE MORNING STAR APPEARS IN THE SKY.

YURI.
YOU'VE GROWN.
HA
THE WOMEN IN THE SERAGLIO MAKE FUN OF ME CAUSE I'M SHORT
REALLY? DON'T LOOK TALLER?

THANKS TO PRINCESS YURI, WE ARE STRONG AGAIN.
YOUR HIGHNESS. WE CAN DO IT
YOU SAY YOU AND THE NITITE PRISONERS WILL OPEN THE GATES, BUT..
YURI HAS WON THE LOYALTY OF THESE PRISONERS?
SEE, PRINCE JAN-MANZA? WE'LL BE FINE.
I PROMISE I'LL DO MY PART WELL.
PLEASE GO BACK WITHOUT US. FOR NOW

WAIT PRINCE ZANNANZA.
ALL RIGHT I'LL RETURN WITH MY BROTHER'S ORDERS
PLEASE...
GIVE THIS TO PRINCE KAIL FOR ME.
THOUGH WE CAN'T BE TOGETHER NOW I LOVE YOU
I LOVE YOU


IT'S THE HITTITE ARMY!
KAIL KAMDELL
NOW I'LL LEARN YOUR TRICK!
RAAAH
OH!
ATTACK!
WHAT IS THAT?
B
M


THE MITANNI'S THIRD DEFENSIVE LINE
THE FORTRESS OF KALPA

PRINCE OF DARKNESS! CHARIOTS ON THE HORIZON!
WE CAN'T ALLOW THE HITTITES TO ADVANCE ANY FARTHER!

TODAY WE ARE FIGHTING AN ARMY COMMANDED BY THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS HIMSELF
STAY ALERT JUST THE SAME!
THIS IS SPLENDID!
DON'T FORGET THEY ARE STILL THE FINEST CHARIOTEERS IN THE WORLD!
OF COURSE NOT TWO MEN ON A CHARIOT CAN PROVIDE LITTLE PROTECTION FOR THEMSELVES, BUT...
YOUR HIGHNESS, OUR ARROWS ARE NOT HITTING THEM.
AS PRINCE KAL SAID, OUR CHARIOTS EASILY SUPPORT THE WEIGHT OF THREE MEN.
...WITH THREE MEN, ONE CAN FOCUS ON OFFENSE WHILE ANOTHER PROVIDES DEFENSE.
...WITH THEIR WHEELS AND AXLES REINFORCED WITH IRON!
THIS GIVES THEM A FORMIDABLE ADVANTAGE!

RRUMB
THREE MEN IN ONE CHARIOT!
WHAT'S THEIR SECRET?!
IMPOSSIBLE!
NO CHARIOT CAN BEAR THE WEIGHT OF THREE MEN!

PRINCE OF DARKNESS!
SO.
YOU SACRIFICED NUMBERS FOR SPEED IN ORDER TO REACH ME, EH?
YOU MUST HATE ME FOR STEALING YOUR ISHTAR.
KLANG

PRINCE OF DARKNESS!
RR
RRMMB
IS THAT KAL-MI-MAR!?
BB
HIS CHARIOT HAS ONLY TWO MEN, INSTEAD OF THREE!
WHUP
THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS IS MINE!
NO ONE ELSE TOUCHES HIM, UNDERSTAND?!

SCREECH
SOONER OR LATER, THAT GIRL, TOO, WILL REVEAL HER TRUE CHARACTER, WHICH SHE HIDES BEHIND THE MASK OF ISHTAR.
I DON'T LOVE YURI BECAUSE SHE IS ISHTAR. I FELL IN LOVE WITH HER BEFORE SHE BECAME A GODDESS.
IS THAT YOUR EXPERIENCE?
THEN I PITY YOU!
MY SWORD BROKE?!
YOU'RE A FOOL. WOMEN ARE INCONSTANT CREATURES.
... A GIRL WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME THAT GREEDY DEMON CALLED A WOMAN.
TM
NO MATTER HOW BEAUTIFUL OR YOUNG SHE IS.

I WILL HAVE YUKI BACK IN HATTUSA, NO MATTER WHAT!
IN FOUR MONTHS...
I WILL SEND HER BACK TO HER FAMILY.
NOW I'M MORE DETERMINED THAN EVER TO SEE HER TO HATTUSA IN TIME.
SHE WANTS TO HELP ME SO MUCH THAT SHE WOULD PASS HER CHANCE TO GO HOME.
YUKI STAYED IN WASSUGANA FOR ME.

SMIRK
DAMN.!
NOW I UNDERSTAND WHAT HE WANTS. I WISH HE HADN'T.
THERE..
LOOK!
PRINCE OF DARKNESS, LOOK AT THAT SMOKE, RISING FROM WASSUGANA!
HIS TROOPS, TOO, SEEM TO BE HOLDING BACK.
IT'S STRANGE. HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DEFEAT ME BY NOW WITH A SHOVE LIKE THAT
WHAT?

I HAVE TO CONCENTRATE ON HELPING PRINCE KAI DEFEAT THE HITTANI.
I HAVE TO PUT JAPAN OUT OF MY MIND, FOR NOW.

ONLY ATTACK THE SOLDIERS!
DON'T HARM THE CIVILIANS!
ADVANCE ON THE PALACE! WE WANT ONLY TUSHRATTA, KING OF THE HITTANI!

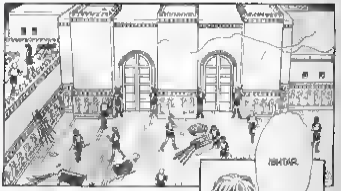
...THE KING AND THE CROWN PRINCE HAVE BEEN CAPTURED!
REPORTS RECEIVED INDICATING ARMY OVER UNITE...
AS LONG AS THE KINGDOM'S CAPITAL WON'T BE KNOWN...
THAT'S WHY WE'RE ASSEMBLING OUR SOLDIERS AT THE PALACE RIGHT NOW, BUT
...WE DON'T HAVE A STRONG ENOUGH FORCE BECAUSE MANY OF OUR TROOPS ARE STILL FIGHTING ELSEWHERE.
YURI?
I CAN FREELY ENTER THE PALACE, YOU KNOW
TO MAKE SURE THE KING'S NOT SOMEWHERE ELSE
SO YU-U WANT ME TO KEEP AN EYE ON KING TUSHINATTA WHILE YOU GATHER YOUR SOLDIERS?

ONCE WASSUGANN IS IN OUR HANDS, THE WAR WILL BE OVER, RIGHT?
IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO WIN.

PRINCE ZANNAH-ZA.
IF WE DON'T HURRY THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS WILL ESCAPE WITH THE KING
IF WE DON'T CAPTURE THE KING NOW, PRINCE KAIL'S EFFORTS WILL BE FOR NOTHING
I'M GOING BACK TO THE PALACE.
WAIT YUH!
WE MUST HELP THE KING ESCAPE.
HURRY TO THE PALACE!

I HAVE TO TAKE YOU TO MY BROTHER!
WHAT DID YOU SAY YOU'D DO?!
THE BLOODY PRINCE OF DARK-NESS HAS RETURNED!
IT'S THE PRINCE OF DARK-NESS.
RR
MM
BB
AAAA
AR
UM

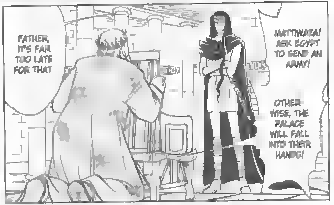
LISTEN CAREFULLY...
RYU...
SHULA


NEKTAR
THE PRINCE MUST BE BACK.
I'M NOT ARMED!
YOU ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING WEAPONS INTO THE PALACE.

KAL WILL REACH WASSUGANN SOON.
YOU KEEP ONLY DELAY THEM UNTIL THEN.
AS SOON AS MY BROTHER ARRIVES, GET OUT OF THE PALACE, NO MATTER WHAT!
JUST UNTIL PRINCE KAL REACHES WASSUGANN...
OKAY PRINCE ZANNANEA.
I PROMISE I'LL GET OUT!!

YES, YOUR HIGHNESS.
WAP
WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG, YOU REPEATED THE HITTITES AND EVEN DREAMED OF SURPASSING EGYPT...
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE YOU'RE THE SAME MAN WHO HAD SUCH AMBITION AND VIGOR.
ESCORT HIS MAJESTY TO THE CARRIAGE!
SHARKU!
LET GO OF ME, YOU RUFFIANS!
WAIT YOU VOICE OF DARKNESS!
I HAVE TO DELAY HIM UNTIL PRINCE KAR ARRIVES
gulp
YOU'RE STILL HERE?
I THOUGHT YOU'D BE THE FIRST TO BOLT

SEND FOR HELP!!


FATHER, IT'S FAR TOO LATE FOR THAT
MUTTNAJMAT! ASK EGYPT TO SEND AN ARMY!
OTHER WISE, THE PALACE WILL FALL INTO THEIR HANDS!

OUR AGE DOESN'T ALWAYS HAVE ONE WISER.
NO, I WON'T GO.
AS SOON AS WE ARE OUT OF THE PALACE, WE'LL BE CAPTURED OR KILLED BY THE HITTITES!
WE MUST FLEE WASSUGANNI.

YOUR HIGHNESS!
THE QUEEN OF THE HITTITES IS YOUR OLDER SISTER, NOT IF SHE WON'T HELP YOU, THEN GO'DY UP TO A HITTITE MAN.
WHY? THAT WHAT YOU DO BEST?
YOUR HIGHNESS!
I BEG YOU, TAKE ME WITH YOU!
NADIA?
MY PRINCE!
BRING MY CHARIOT TO THE FRONT OF THE PALACE. I'M LEAVING.
PRINCE MATTIWAZA, TRUSTS CAUSE...
WHY ARE YOU SO MEAN TO WOMEN?

WHAT?
I'VE NO TIME FOR YOU RIGHT NOW
I HAVE TO FREE THE WOMEN OF THE SERAGLIO.
WE'RE ABANDONING WASHUKANNA AND WE CAN'T TAKE THE WOMEN WITH US.
I MUST ASSIST MURSILI HAS PUT US IN A TIGHT SPOT
HURRY, OR THE HITTITE SOLDIERS WILL GET YOU!
WOMEN, GO WHERE YOU WILL!
TAKE WHATEVER YOU WANT WITH YOU!
EEK.
AAAH!

YES
SHE WAS ABOUT YOUR AGE WHEN SHE WAS.
SOLD?
SOLD TO THE PHARAOH OF EGYPT
TATUKIA IS MY OLDER SISTER.
SHE LEFT THE KINGDOM TWENTY YEARS AGO.
YOUR OLDER SISTER?

SHE'S VERY IMPORTANT TO YOU, ISN'T SHE?
YOU SAID YOU WERE FRIENDS THE WOMEN. BUT WHAT ABOUT TATUKIA?
I'VE NO TIME FOR YOU, GIRL
WAIT, PRINCE OF DARKNESS!
I CAN'T LET HIM GO YET
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE BABBLING ABOUT...
!!

NOW AMENHOTEP IV IS DEAD AS WELL, AND MY SISTER RULES EGYPT THROUGH KING TUTANKHAMEN.
MAYU..
MY SISTER.
TWO YEARS LATER, AMENHOTEP III DIED AND HIS SON BECAME AMENHOTEP IV
WORD REACHED US THAT THE NEW PHARAOH HAD MADE MY SISTER HIS QUEEN.
I DO ADMIRE HER SHREWDNESS.
THE NEW KING WAS SICKLY AND MY SISTER CONTROLLED HIM COMPLETELY
MAYU..

AT THAT TIME, OUR COUNTRY WAS VERY SMALL. IN EXCHANGE FOR A FORTUNE IN GOLD,
MY FATHER SOLD HIS OWN DAUGHTER...
THE PHARAOH WAS A VERY OLD MAN.
...TO BE THE CONCUBINE OF AMENHOTEP III
I'M SORRY FOR HIM!
IN EXCHANGE FOR
YOU MISPRINT ME.

I DON'T LOVE YURI BECAUSE SHE IS ISHTAR.
AND A HUMAN BEING HAS TO HAVE LOVE!
FLOWERS CAN'T GROW WITHOUT LIGHT AND WATER.
THAT WAS THE ONLY WAY SHE COULD SURVIVE UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.
SHE WAS LONELY AND AFRAID IN A STRANGE LAND.
I STILL FEEL SORRY FOR YOUR SISTER.
THEY THRIVE ON POWER AND GOLD
WOMEN PROSPER THROUGH GUILE AND CUNNING...

NEFERTITI!
THAT'S A FAMOUS EGYPTIAN QUEEN!
NEFERTITI.
IN EGYP SHE W CALLED,

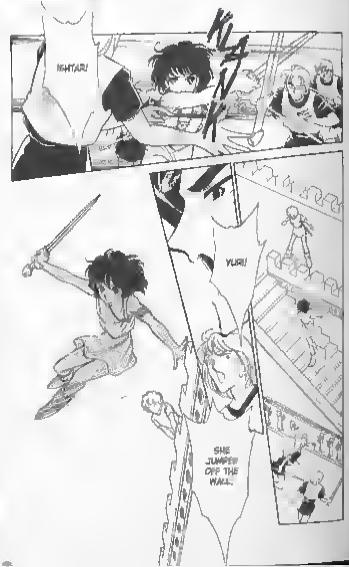
BESIDES,
I'M GOING BACK TO JAPAN SOON.
YOU REALLY ARE A MOST UNUSUAL WOMAN.
PERHAPS I SHALL...
KEEP YOU WITH ME.
PEN
?!

PEOPLE SAY KAIL MURRELL WILL SUCCEED HIS FATHER.
HIS QUEEN?
WHAT?
ME? YOU MUST BE KIDDING!
YOU HAVE TO HAVE ROYAL BLOOD TO BE A PRINCE'S WIFE.
IS HE GOING TO MAKE YOU HIS QUEEN?
KOSS KAIL MURRELL...
...LOVE YOU?

FIND THE KING AS SOON AS THE GATES OPEN!
AAAAH!
YES, BUT SHE WAS MEANT TO FLEE UPON YOUR ARRIVAL.
RAMAYA, IS YURI INSIDE THE PALACE?
YURI!

?!
AAAA

GIVE UP! YOU CAN'T FIGHT THEM WITHOUT A SWORD!
RYU!!
SHALA!
FWUP
GUARDS!
I CAN SEE HIM!
PRINCE KAIL HAS ARRIVED!
I WON'T LET HER LEAVE THE SERAGLIO!
ISHTAR, PLEASE STOP!
TMP


KLANK
YAHTARI
YURI
SHE JUMPED OFF THE WALL.

SORRY!
BUT I HAVE TO GO NOW!
WAP
SHISH

GET HER!
DON'T LET HER ESCAPE!
WILL I BE THE WIFE OF A HITTITE PRINCE?
IS PRINCE KAIL GOING TO MAKE ME HIS OFFICIAL WIFE? WHAT A SILLY IDEA!
THAT COULD NEVER HAPPEN!

I WAS BROUGHT TO THIS LAND BY QUEEN NAMIA'S MAGIC.
OTHERWISE, I'D BE GOING TO HIGH SCHOOL IN JAPAN RIGHT NOW.
NO MATTER HOW MUCH I LOVE HIM...
— PRINCE KAI AND I ARE FROM DIFFERENT WORLDS.
I KNOW
— THAT NO MATTER HOW MUCH I LOVE HER, YURI CAN NEVER BE MINE.
BUT I WILL HELP HER RETURN TO HER COUNTRY.

I'LL SOON BE A YEAR SINCE I ARRIVED IN THIS WORLD
MY FAMILY MUST BE SEARCHING FOR ME.
MOM, DAD...
THAT'S THE BEST SOLUTION, ISN'T IT?
...MAKE AND END.

WHY DID I FALL IN LOVE WITH PRINCE KAIL?
THIS ISN'T MY TIME OR PLACE! I'M A MODERN WOMAN!
I'M GOING HOME TO JAPAN AS SOON AS THIS WAR IS OVER!

WHAT?
OH!
SHALA, LOOK AT THAT!
THAT BANNER!
THAT'S THE BANNER OF THE GAL MESHEIN!
THE GAL MESHEIN?
THAT MEANS THAT THE EMPEROR WILL BE HERE SOON.

THEY MUST ALL BE.
TERRIBLY WORRIED ABOUT ME
I'M GLAD WE GOT OUT OF THE SERAGLIO, BUT...
FIRES HAVE BROKEN OUT EVERYWHERE AND THE CITIZENS ARE PANICKING.
PRINCESS YURI, BE CAREFUL.
BUT WE HAVE TO FIND PRINCE KAIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
I WILL

I'LL BE GLAD FOR THE WAR TO END, BUT THAT MEANS...
THE WAR WILL SOON BE OVER.
I'LL BE RETURNING TO HATTUSA SOON AND SAYING GOODBYE TO PRINCE KAI FOREVER.
KYUI, SHALA...
KNOCK
YES, PRINCESS.
LET'S FIND PRINCE KAI. HE'S PROBABLY AT THE FRONT GATE.
THE PRESENCE OF THE IMPERIAL GUARD HERE MEANS THAT HIS MAJESTY HAS TAKEN TO THE FIELD.
CURRENTLY ONE OF THE EMPEROR'S BROTHERS, PRINCE ZUKIA IS THE RAL MESHEDI
THE RAL MASHEDI IS THE HIGHEST OFFICIAL IN THE MILITARY. THE POSITION IS USUALLY HELD BY AN IMPORTANT PRINCE
YES. THE CHIEF OF THE IMPERIAL GUARD. HE'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EMPEROR'S SAFETY

THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS MADE A HUGE MISTAKE WHEN HE ABDUCTED HER.
IT WAS AS THOUGH HE HAD LIT A FIRE UNDER KAIL.
MY BROTHER WON THE WAR SO QUICKLY BECAUSE OF YUN, UNCLE SUIJIN.
I SEE.
I'D HEARD THAT KAIL WAS IN LOVE WITH HIS CONCUBINE
I WAS THINKING OF WARNING HIM ABOUT THAT BUT
IF HIS LOVE CAN BRING ABOUT A VICTORY LIKE THIS, IT MAY NOT BE SO BAD
I DOUBT THAT I COULD BEAR THE PAIN.
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD GET YOURSELF A FEW MORE CONCUBINES.
THEN YOU MIGHT EVEN CONSIDER EGYPT

KAIL!
ZANKANTA!
UNCLE SUIJIN!

YOU AMAZE ME!
I THOUGHT IT WOULD TAKE TWO YEARS FOR YOU TO CAPTURE WASSUGANNI, BUT YOU DID IT IN ONLY EIGHT MONTHS.
IT HAPPENED SO QUICKLY THAT HIS MAJESTY HAD TO LEAVE HATTUSA IN HASTE!
HE SHOULD BE HERE IN ABOUT SEVEN DAYS.

WE ONLY NEED TO CAPTURE THE KING AND HIS CROWN PRINCE
FORGET ABOUT THE ESCAPING MITANNI SOLDIERS! EXTINGUISH THE FIRE!
WHAT?
THERE ARE STILL PEOPLE IN THE PALACE.
YES, BUT...
THIS CITY HAS A CANAL CONNECTED TO THE KHABUR RIVER, RIGHT?
I'M GOING TO STOP THE FIRE THERE!
NEVER MIND! I'LL SEE TO IT
RANNANIA, I WANT YOU TO SEE TO THE SAFETY OF THE CITIZENS
UNCLE ZUIDA! SEE TO THE PALACE!
YES, PRINCE KAJI
I BELIEVE YUBI IS STILL INSIDE THE PALACE. TELL THE MAN TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO HARM HER!
VERY GOOD
PRINCE KAJI! THE PALACE GATE HAS BEEN TORN DOWN.
YES, I HOPE HE SURVIVES.
HE SEEMS TO HAVE A BAD CASE OF IT
THE MITANNI SOLDIERS HAVE SET FIRES TO COVER THEIR ESCAPE.
THE FIRE IS NEARING THE PALACE!
WHERE'S THE SMOKE COMING FROM?
WE HAVEN'T FOUND KING TUSHRATTA YET, SIR.
NOW THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS.
KEEP SEARCHING! THEY MUST STILL BE HERE.

RYUU, SHALA!
WE'RE GOING TO TAKE A DETOUR.
ASLAN?
WIP
WIP
NOT THAT WAY!
THIS WAY, ASLAN.
WIP
ASLAN! WE WANT TO GO TOWARD THE PALACE!
ASLAN!
KLOP

AAAH
EEEK
EEEK

WE HAVE TO GET TO THE FRONT OF THE PALACE!
PLEASE, MOVE!

AT THIS PACE, WE'LL NEVER REACH PRINCE KAL.

RYUU, WAIT FOR ME.
WE WILL
EACH OTHER SOON. PLEASE
ON JUST A LITTLE LONGER.

WHAT'S WRONG?
ARE YOU THIRSTY?
IT'S SO SMOKY HERE I CAN'T SEE THE SURFACE OF THE WATER.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU ASLAN?
YOU'RE HEADING FOR THE CANAL!
WHINNY
AAAW!

YURI!

PRINCE KAL?

?!
YURI!
PRINCESS YURI!
THUG
AAAH!

PLEASE LET THIS BE REAL.
PRINCE KAIL!
IS IT REALLY YOU?
YURI!
PRINCE KAIL!
THRUMP
FWUP

PRINCESS YURI!
I DON'T NEED THEM.
I ONLY NEED YOU
OH!
MATTHIAS!!

RYU, SHALA.
WE CAN'T LEAVE YURI!
RUN!
SPLASH
WUMP
PRINCESS YURI!
PRINCE OF DARKNESS!

WHAT?
HE TOOK YUM HOSTAGE?
RAAAH
ISHTAR!

OPEN THE GATES OF WASSU-GANN FOR US.
YOU WILL WITHDRAW YOUR ARMY FROM THE CITY AND ALLOW MY FATHER AND I TO DEPART.
KAIL MURSILI?
BUT IF YOU CARE FOR THIS GIRL, YOU'LL DO AS I ASK!
IT'S YOUR CHOICE.
WHAT?!

MURMUR
MURMUR
FIGHT AIR!

WHY DO YOU HESITATE? ARE YOU GIVING UP THE CHANCE TO WIN THIS WAR FOR ONE LITTLE GIRL?
YOUR SOLDIERS HAVE RISKED THEIR LIVES FOR YOU! THEY'LL NEVER ACCEPT THIS!
KAIL! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? YOU MUST CAPTURE THE KING AND THE CROWN PRINCE NOW!

MAKE WAY FOR US!
OR I WILL KILL ISHTAR BEFORE YOUR EYES

TO SAVE YURI!
THE SOLDIERS ARE LETTING THEM PASS!
DOOM

YURI!
NO.
BROTHER!

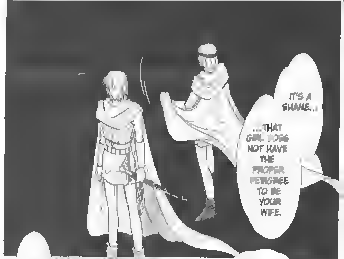
WAR
RAH
LONG LIVE ISHTAR!
UNA!
LISTEN, ARIANNA SOLDIERS! WE HAVE THE GODDESS OF WAR IN OUR HANDS!
THE GODS ARE WITH US!

ALL YOU LACK IS A WIFE.
YOU ALREADY HAVE QUALIFIED PEOPLE WHO CAN SERVE IN YOUR SENATE
AND ZANNANZA WOULD MAKE AN EXCELLENT GAL MESHIA!!
KAIL.
YOU HAVE THE WISDOM AND CHARISMA TO BE AN EMPEROR.

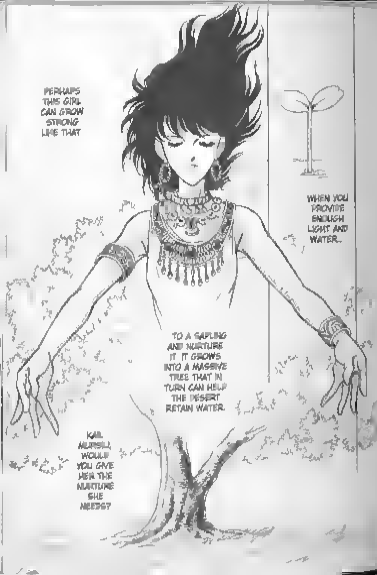
WHAT DO YOU SAY?
WE'LL GET HER BACK, WHAT EVER IT TAKES!
ISHTAR BELONGS TO US NOW!
OUT OF OUR WAY!

AND I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE THE ONE WHO WILL CARRY OUR LEGACY FORWARD
HIS MAJESTY AND I BUILT OUR SMALL NATION IN ANATOLIA,
INTO THE POWERFUL EMPIRE IT IS TODAY
KAIL.
UNCLE ZUDA?
I'M IMPRESSED BY THE CHARACTER OF YOUR MEN.

YOU KNOW THAT PRINCESS YURI HAS ALL THE QUALITIES NECESSARY TO BE TAWANANNA.
I WANT
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
KEEP HER HERE...
AND MAKE HER YOUR LAWFUL WIFE.


IT'S A SHAME...
...THAT GIRL DOES NOT HAVE THE PROPER PEDIGREE TO BE YOUR WIFE.

WELL, I MUST GET READY TO ESCORT HIS MAJESTY.
YOUR HIGHNESS.
YOU SHOULD KEEP YURI WITH YOU.
TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. WE MUST RETURN YURI TO HER COUNTRY IN FOUR MONTHS' TIME.
WHETHER SHE HAS THE PROPER PEDIGREE OR NOT, THERE'S NO WAY SHE WILL BE MY QUEEN.
I BELIEVE HE'LL SEEK REFUGE EITHER IN NINEVEH OR CANCHENNISH.
HINDUM, PREPARE TO PURSUE THE PRINCE OF BARBARIANESS.


PERHAPS THIS GIRL CAN GROW STRONG LIKE THAT
WHEN YOU PROVIDE ENOUGH LIGHT AND WATER..
TO A SAPLING AND NURTURE IT. IT GROWS INTO A MASSIVE TREE THAT IN TURN CAN HELP THE DESERT RETAIN WATER.
KAB. HERSELF. WOULD YOU GIVE HER THE NURTURE SHE NEEDS?

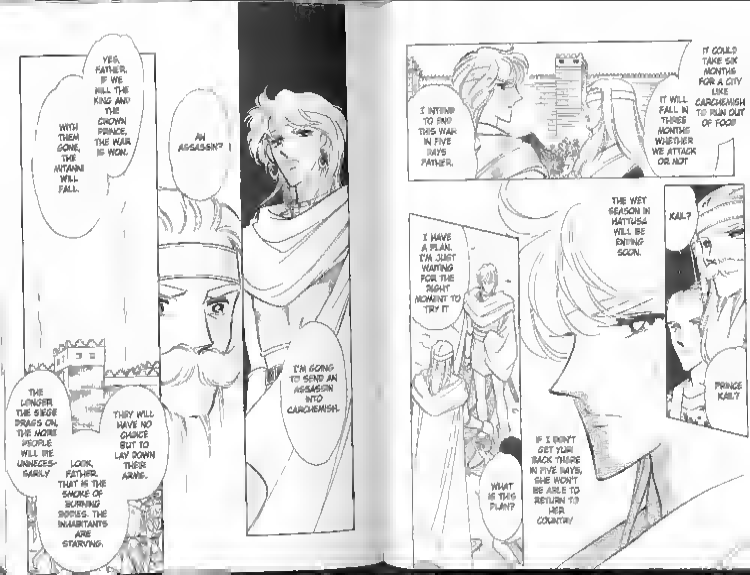
THRUMP
THRUMP
SEND ME BACK TO PRINCE KAB.!
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
YOU SAID YOU HAD NO INTEREST IN ME!
I'VE CHANGED MY MIND
YOU SAID FLOWERS NEED LIGHT AND WATER TO GROW RIGHT?
THE GAME IS TOO FOR TREES.
?!

WE SHALL SEE NOW
KAIL MURSIL, IF YOU REALLY LOVE HER...
YOU WILL TRY TO TAKE THIS GIRL BACK FROM ME
MAKE YUNI MY LAWFUL WIFE?
MAKE HER QUEEN OF THE HITTITES?

HITTITE MILITARY POST
IT HAS BEEN FOUR MONTHS SINCE THE MITANNI KING TUSHRATTA AND CROWN PRINCE MATTIWAZA TOOK REFUGE HERE.
CARCHEMISH... IS A POINT ON THE EUPHRATES. IT OCCUPIES A STRATEGIC POSITION BETWEEN MESOPOTAMIA AND THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN SEA.
HIS MAJESTY HAS JUST ARRIVED!
I HAVE A REPORT FOR HIS HIGHNESS PRINCE KAIL.
THEIR ARMIES ARE NOW IN A STANDOFF WITH THE HITTITE FORCES THAT SURROUND CARCHEMISH.
FATHER IS HERE?

THE HITTITE EMPEROR, SUPPILULIUMA I, AND THE MITANNI KING, TUSHRATTA, HAVE BEEN RIVALS SINCE THEIR YOUTH.
...SUPPILULIUMA I HAS SUFFERED SEVERAL SMARTING DEFEATS.
BOTH RULERS EXPANDED THEIR SMALL COUNTRIES INTO POWERFUL, THRIVING NATIONS. THEY HAVE CROSSED SWORDS MORE THAN ONCE IN THE PAST AND...

FATHER.
HAH... IT SEEMS THE MITANNI ARE DETERMINED TO HOLD OUT FOREVER, EH?
WE FAILED TO CAPTURE TUSHRATTA. ALTHOUGH WE SEIZED HIS CAPITAL.
I'M SORRY.
BESIDES, TUSHRATTA'S ESCAPE WILL AFFORD ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO WITNESS HIS BEHEADING
IT'S ALL RIGHT. I EXPECTED THIS WAR TO GO ON FOR YEARS. I NEVER DREAMED YOU'D HAVE SUCH SUCCESS IN LESS THAN A YEAR.


YES, FATHER. IF WE KILL THE KING AND THE CROWN PRINCE, THE WAR IS WON.
WITH THEM GONE, THE ARTANNI WILL FALL.
AN ASSASSIN?
I'M GOING TO SEND AN ASSASSIN INTO CARCHEMISH.
THE LONGER THE SIEGE DRAGS ON, THE MORE PEOPLE WILL BE UNNECESSARILY
LOOK, FATHER. THAT IS THE SMOKE OF BURNING HOUSES. THE INHABITANTS ARE STARVING.
THEY WILL HAVE NO CHANCE BUT TO LAY DOWN THEIR ARMS.
I INTEND TO END THIS WAR IN FIVE DAYS, FATHER.
IT WILL FALL IN THREE MONTHS WHETHER WE ATTACK OR NOT
IT COULD TAKE SIX MONTHS FOR A CITY LIKE CARCHEMISH TO RUN OUT OF FOOD!
I HAVE A PLAN. I'M JUST WAITING FOR THE RIGHT MOMENT TO TRY IT
WHAT IS THAT PLAN?
IF I DON'T GET YOUR BACK THERE IN FIVE DAYS, SHE WON'T BE ABLE TO RETURN TO HER COUNTRY
THE WET SEASON IN MATTHIS WILL BE ENDING SOON.
KAIL?
PRINCE KAIL?

TRUE, YOUR HIGHNESS
BUT I DON'T KNOW THEN THE HINT OF PERSIMON SHE IS.
WIP
AS I RECALL, WHEN I TOOK HER AS MY CONCUBINE, YOU OPPOSED THE IDEA MORE THAN ANYONE.
AND MAKE HER MY LAWFUL WIFE? IS THAT IT?
NO NEED FOR HASTE, MY PRINCE.
YOU CAN TAKE PRINCESS YURI BACK AFTER THAT
WE NEED DO NOTHING. CAIGHEMISH WILL SOON FALL ON ITS OWN.
YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL ME THAT!
SHE IS PRINCESS YURI.
A WOMAN WITH LEADERSHIP ABILITY, WISDOM, AND SELF-DISCIPLINE. NOW YOU HAVE FOUND THAT WOMAN.
FOR YEARS YOU HAVE SOUGHT A PRINCESS WHO WOULD MAKE A GOOD TAWANANNA.

I DIDN'T KNOW THAT YET
I OFFERED THEM FOOD BUT THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS REFUSED TO OPEN THE GATE.
HMM. BUT HOW ARE YOU GOING TO GET THE ASSASSIN IN?

I AM PREPARED FOR A LONG WAR.
I HAVE ENTRUSTED THE FRONTLINE COMMAND TO YOU. DO WHAT YOU THINK IS BEST
NEVER MIND

YOUR HIGHNESS.
VERY GOOD, YOUR MAJESTY
SURYA, WHAT DON'T WE DRINK SOMA WINE IN ANTICIPATION OF OUR VICTORY?

WE MUST GIVE HER UP
AND PRETEND SHE NEVER EXISTED
SHE WAS NEVER MEANT TO BE HERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
SHE WASN'T
MEANT TO MEET ME.
SHE WASN'T MEANT TO MEET ANY OF US.
...I PROMISED HER I'D RETURN HER TO HER OWN COUNTRY!
YURI, WOULD MAKE AN IDEAL TAWAMANDA, BUT
YOU'RE RIGHT

WHAT DO YOU SEE IN KAIL MURDER?
ENOUGH.
MOST WOMEN WOULD ADAPT TO THEIR NEW CIRCUMSTANCES WITHIN A MONTH OF THEIR CAPTURE.
I'M NOT GOING BACK TO PRINCE KAIL. I'M GOING BACK TO JAPAN. I'M GOING BACK TO MY FAMILY. THAT'S WAITING FOR ME.
IF I STAY IN THIS WORLD MUCH LONGER, I'M AFRAID MY HEART WILL BE FOR PRINCE KAIL. WILL GROW SO STILL. SO THAT I'LL NEVER BE WANT TO GO HOME.

MORE PEOPLE PERISH EVERY DAY.
THE FOOT SOLDIERS ARE ALREADY GOING HUNGRY.
YOU SHOULD EAT WHILE YOU CAN.
LET ME GO!

YOU'RE NOT WAITING FOR HER HELP ARE YOU?
DO YOU EXPECT TATUNA TO SAVE YOU?
DO YOU THINK SHE WILL BEAR AN ARMY UP FROM EGYPT TO RESCUE YOU?
WAP
IF THE GODS GRANT HIM VICTORY, YOU CAN GO BACK TO HIM.
BUT IF THEY FAVOR ME, YOU WILL HAVE TO GIVE HIM UP AND BE MY WOMAN.
I WAS READY TO GO BACK TO JAPAN AS SOON WASGUGANNI FELL.
I WAS PREPARED TO FORGET ABOUT PRINCE KAIL.
YOUR ENEMIES HAVE YOU TOTALLY SURROUNDED!
PRINCE MATTIWAZA, WHAT ARE YOU'RE GOING TO DO?

DON'T EVER TOUCH ME AGAIN!
IF YOU TRY TO KISS ME AGAIN, I'LL BITE IT OFF!
HOW CRUDE OF YOU TO BITE MY TONGUE!
IS THAT A HITTITE CUSTOM?

IT SEEMS I NEEDN'T WORRY ABOUT BOREDOM, HOWEVER LONG WE ARE STUCK HERE.

?!
EVEN THE WILDEST OF CATS.
BUT THERE ARE WAYS TO TAME.

UHH.

WHAT?
YOUR HIGHNESS!
A WOMAN WHO CLAIMS TO BE THE PRINCE OF DARKNESS'S CONCUBINE IS ASKING US TO HELP HER ENTER THE CITY.
PRINCE KAIL.
I HAVE A REQUEST YOUR MAJESTY
PLEASE HELP ME.
I BEG YOU, PLEASE.
MY NAME IS NAIPA. I'VE COME ALL THE WAY FROM WASSUGANN TO BE WITH PRINCE MATTHIAS.

tap
tap
tap
BZZZZZZZ
I CAN'T HELP IT IN A FEW SHORT DAYS IT WILL BE TOO LATE
AHHH
I KNOW
I SHOULDN'T BE IMPATIENT, BUT...
WE'LL FIND SOME WAY TO GET AN ASSASSIN INTO THE CITY
PRINCE KAIL, PLEASE GET SOME REST

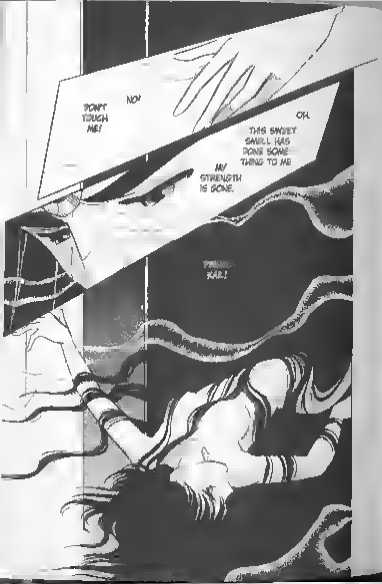
WHERE HE'S HERE
HE'S RIGHT. I SHOULD BE THE ONE TO GO.
YOU WANT THE KING AND THE CROWN PRINCE KILLED, RIGHT? WELL, I'M THE FINEST SWORDSMAN HERE.
THEN LET ME GO.
NO! YOU'LL HAVE TO DISGUISE YOURSELF AS A HANDMAID.
NO WAY WOULD I TAKE A BEAR LIKE YOU FOR A WOMAN.
HOW I'LL SNEAK INTO THE PALACE.
WE'LL SEND ONLY ONE MORE MIGHT BE FOUND OUT
ME, TOO.
AND I.
I SHALL ENTER CARTHENIUM.
PRINCE KAIL!

WAIT FATHER.
I WILL NOT!
I WON'T ALLOW MY FATHER THE CONQUEST OF HIS DOMINIONS.
A CHILDLESS MAN IS AN EMBARRASS, RIGHT?
THIS IS THE OPPORTUNITY WE'VE BEEN WAITING FOR.
THIS WOMAN IS STEP-MOTHER'S SISTER.
PERHAPS YOU SHOULD GRANT HER REQUEST
WHAT?
THEY AGREED TO LET PRINCESS NAVIA ENTER CARTHENIUM

INCENSE?
YES. THIS IS TO STOP YOU FROM BITING ME.
I'M NOT A CAT THAT'S HIGH ON CATNIP!
DON'T BE RIDICULOUS.
JUST STAY AWAY FROM ME!

DON'T TELL FATHER OF THIS, ALL RIGHT?
BROTHER, WHAT NONSENSE IS THIS?
YOUR HIGHNESS, PLEASE DON'T
PLEASE LET US DO IT, YOUR HIGHNESS.
BRO-THER.
YOU WISH TO RIDICULE YOUR-SELF, DON'T YOU?
DON'T WORRY. I'M NEARLY AS GOOD WITH A SWORD AS ANY OF YOU.

FWOP
NO!
I'VE PROMISED TO GIVE IT A TRY
WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO ME?
THIS INCENSE WAS MADE FOR AN EGYPTIAN KING-FOR USE IN HIS BED-CHAMBER.
I WAS CURIOUS THAT IT HAD THE POWER TO AROUSE WOMEN, BUT
?!
WHAT... WHAT IS THIS?
I, I CAN'T KEEP MY BALANCE.
AH?!
SWUMP
YANK
PIP


DON'T TOUCH ME!
NO!
OH.
THIS SWEET SMELL HAS DONE SOME THING TO ME
MY STRENGTH IS GONE.
KAL!

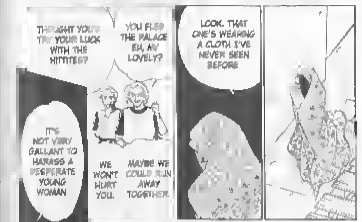
DON'T

IF A FLOWER WILL GROW WHEN GIVEN LOVE AND NURTURE.
WHAT HAPPENS IF A FLOWER IS BROKEN BEFORE IT CAN BLOOM?
CAN YOU TELL ME?

BUT I'M GLAD TO MEET YOU UNDERTAKERS UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES.
NOW, TURN AROUND AND GUIDE ME TO THE PALACE.
FWAP

A-AS YOU WISH.

BATTLE.
PRINCESS MAIRA.
COME THIS WAY
I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE ALIVE.


THOUGHT YOU'D TRY YOUR LUCK WITH THE HITTITES?
YOU FLED THE PALACE EH, MY LOVELY?
LOOK, THAT ONE'S WEARING A CLOTH. I'VE NEVER SEEN BEFORE
IT'S NOT VERY GALLANT TO HARASS A DESPERATE YOUNG WOMAN
WE WON'T HURT YOU.
MAYBE WE COULD RUN AWAY TOGETHER.

SCANED BY CHROKO.J EDITOR AKITO - SAMA